

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
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## **Six ARPA-E Projects Illustrate Private Investors Excited About Clean Energy Innovation**

*Companies generate more than \$100 million in follow-on funding one year after Department of Energy's initial awards totaling \$24 million*

**Washington, DC** – In a little over one year, six projects that received a total of \$23.6 million in seed funding from the Department of Energy's Advanced Research Project Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) have generated more than \$100 million in outside private capital investment, Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced today.

The six projects, which received between \$750,000 and \$8 million each, focus on improving solar and wind energy technologies and advanced battery storage.

"This amount of private capital support indicates that the business community is hungry to invest in truly innovative solutions to the country's energy challenges," said Secretary Chu. "These game-changing projects are going to ensure America's energy, economic and environmental prosperity is secure."

"The goal of the ARPA-E program is to swing for the fences, to focus on truly transformative energy research, and that's exactly what we are seeing," Chu added.

The six projects singled out by Secretary Chu include:

**1366 Technologies, Lexington, Mass.** - 1366 Technologies is a small startup developing a new way to make silicon wafers – the key part in solar panels – for 80% less than the current cost. The company received \$4 million investment from ARPA-E and since then has secured an additional \$33.4 million from investors and interested customers.

**Envia, Hayward, Calif.** - Envia Systems, in partnership with Argonne National Laboratory, received \$4 million from ARPA-E in December 2009 to develop lithium-ion batteries with the highest energy density in the world. They recently received an additional \$17 million in venture capital funds.

**FloDesign, Wilbraham, Mass.** - FloDesign Wind Turbine (FloDesign) received \$8.3 million from ARPA-E to accelerate the development of a new wind turbine inspired by

airplane jet engines. ARPA-E funding helped FloDesign raise an additional \$27 million, recruit a stellar executive team, and more than double its staff from 20 to 50 employees.

**SunCatalytix, Cambridge, Mass.** - Sun Catalytix, a start-up spun out of MIT, received \$4 million from ARPA-E to develop their technologies for combining sunlight and water to provide affordable, highly distributed solar energy to the individual. They have since received an additional \$9.5 million in venture capital funds.

**General Compression, Newton, Mass.** - General Compression is developing fuel-free compressed air energy storage technology to enable low-cost grid storage and to help make intermittent renewable power (such as from solar and wind) fully dispatchable. The company received a small ARPA-E grant of \$750,000 to test an improved version of their technology with significantly higher efficiency and lower cost, which has been built and is now in testing. Following the ARPA-E award, General Compression has received over \$12 million in additional funding from existing and new investors.

**24M, Cambridge, Mass.** - 24M is a start-up that was spun out of MIT and A123 Systems after receiving an ARPA-E award of \$2.55 million. The company is developing a new battery architecture that could take batteries for electric vehicles well beyond the performance and below the cost of lithium ion batteries. Shortly after spinning out, the company secured \$10 million in venture capital funds.

These six companies and 100 other innovative ARPA-E supported projects will be presenting at the upcoming ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit on February 28 - March 2 in Washington, DC. To learn more and to register, please visit: [www.ct-si.org/events/EnergyInnovation](http://www.ct-si.org/events/EnergyInnovation).

To learn more about ARPA-E's full portfolio and previous awards, visit: [www.arpa-e.energy.gov](http://www.arpa-e.energy.gov).

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